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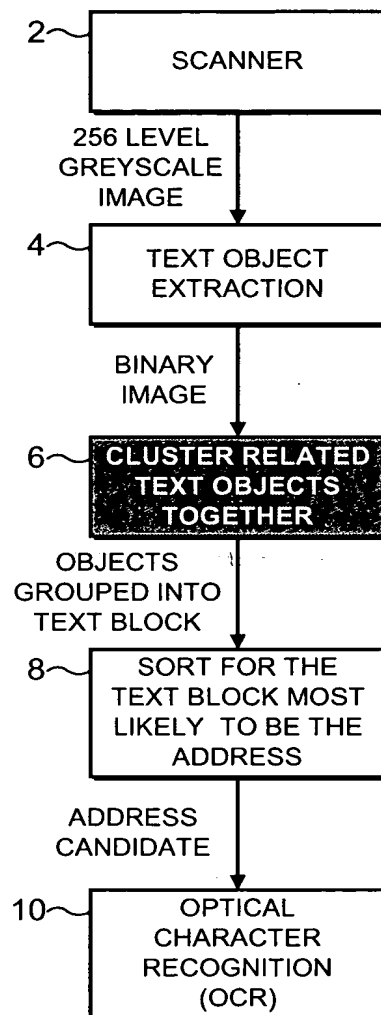
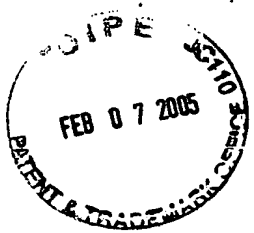


FIG. 1

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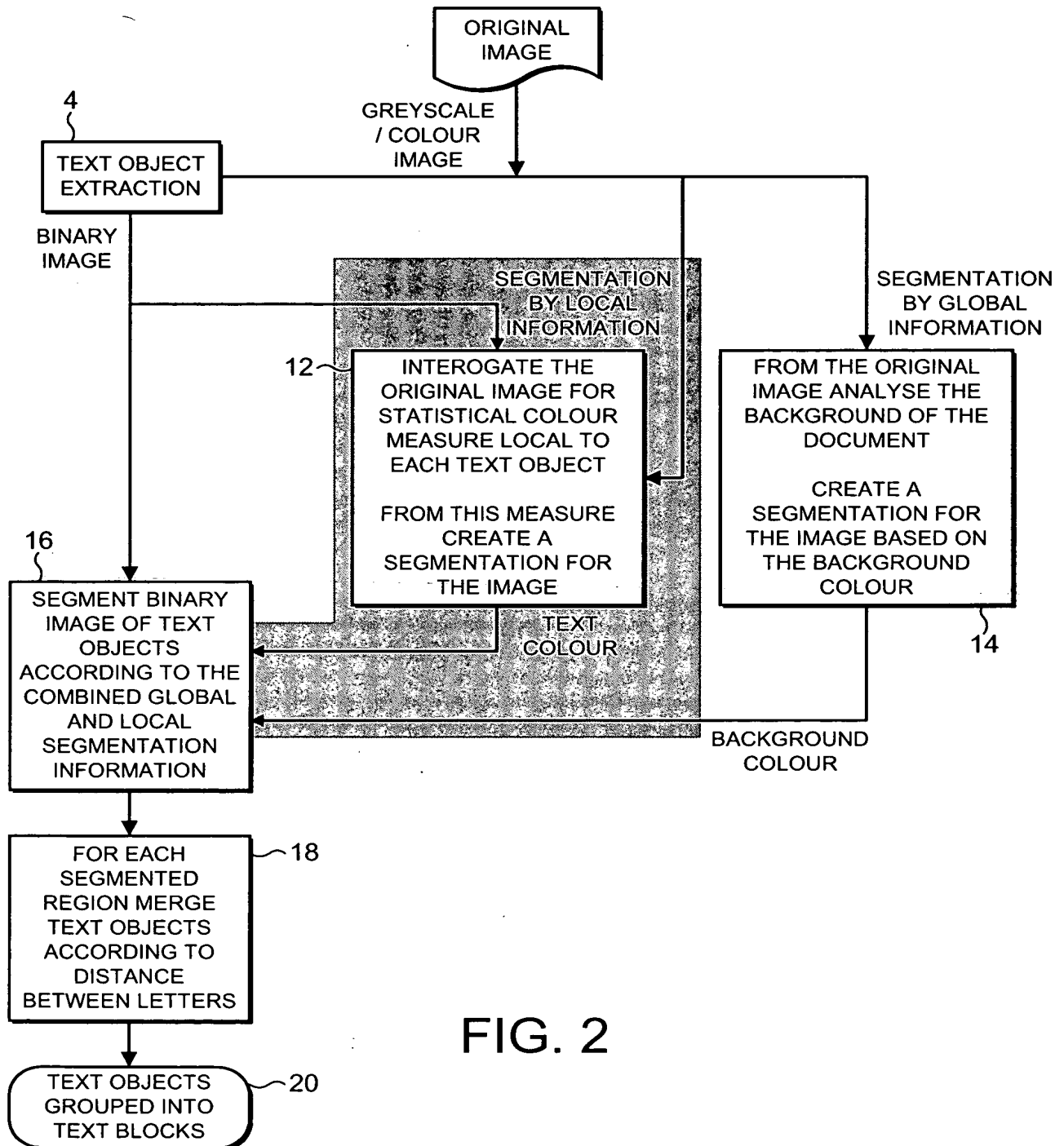


FIG. 2



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A) ORIGINAL
DOCUMENT IMAGE

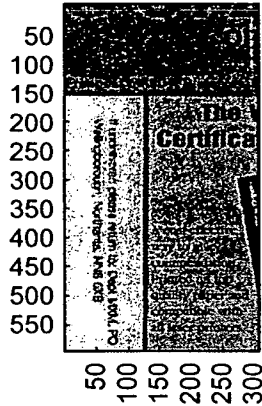


FIG. 3A

B) EXTRACTED BINARY
TEXT OBJECTS

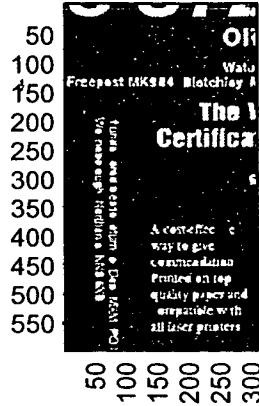


FIG. 3B

C) CLUSTERING USING
SIMPLE MERGING.
ALL TEXT OBJECTS
ARE CLUSTERED
TOGETHER

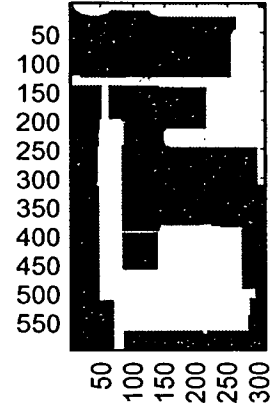


FIG. 3C

D) EXTRACT
BACKGROUND
FROM ORIGINAL

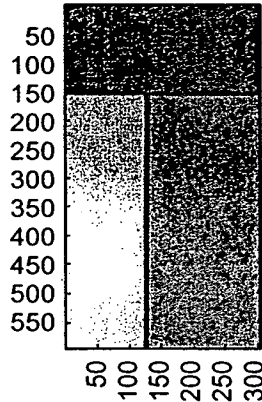


FIG. 3D

E) SEGMENT ACCORDING TO BACKGROUND.
FOR EACH BACKGROUND REGION SEPARATELY
APPLY MERGING TO THE TEXT OBJECTS

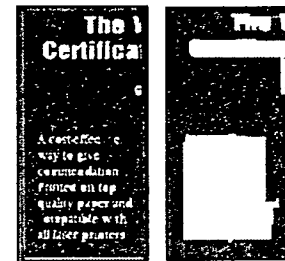
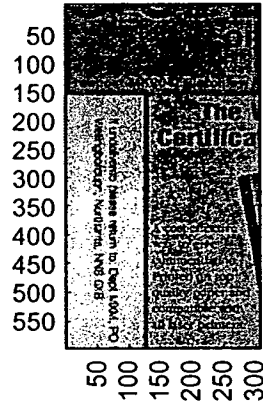


FIG. 3E

F) THE RESULTS ARE
CLUSTERED TEXT
OBJECTS THAT HAVE
CONSISTENT
BACKGROUND

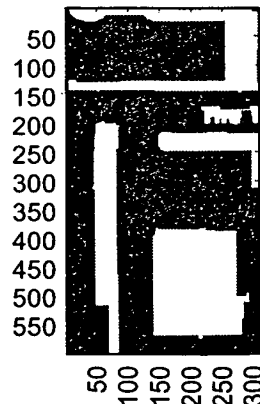


FIG. 3F



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ORIGINAL
DOCUMENT IMAGE

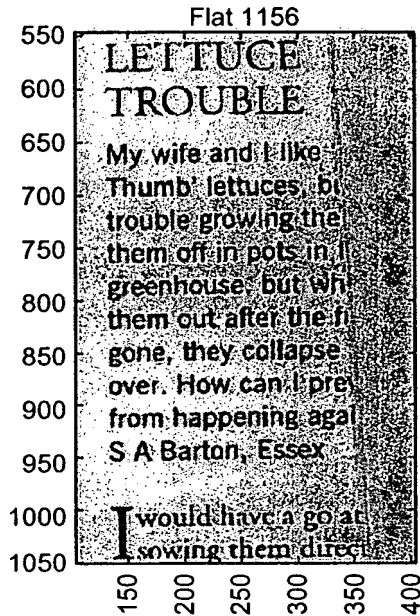


FIG. 4A

FOR EACH OF THE BINARY TEXT OBJECTS
EXTRACTED THE LOCAL MINIMUM GREYLEVEL
IS OBTAINED FROM THE ORIGINAL IMAGE.
THE LOCAL MINIMUM GREYLEVEL IS A
MEASURE OF THE TEXT COLOUR

MINIMUM GREY
LEVEL IMAGE

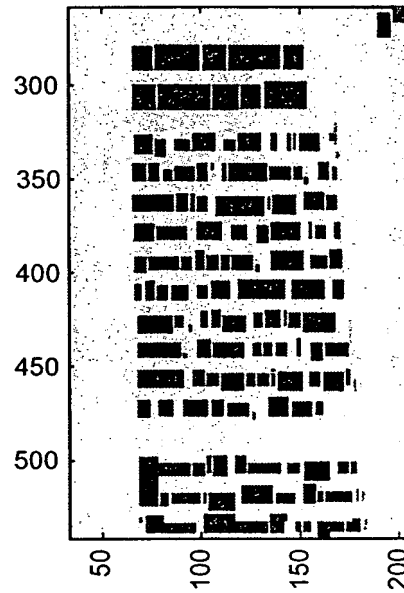


FIG. 4B

THE MINIMUM GREYLEVEL DATA IS USED TO
BUILD A SEGMENTATION OF THE IMAGE. EACH
REGION IN SEGMENTATION IS AN AREA OF
THE IMAGE WHERE THE TEXT COLOUR IS
CONSISTENT.

MERGED TEXT BLOCKS

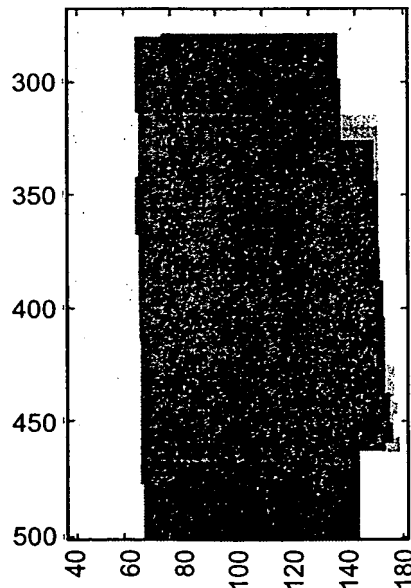
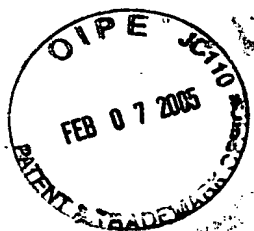


FIG. 4C



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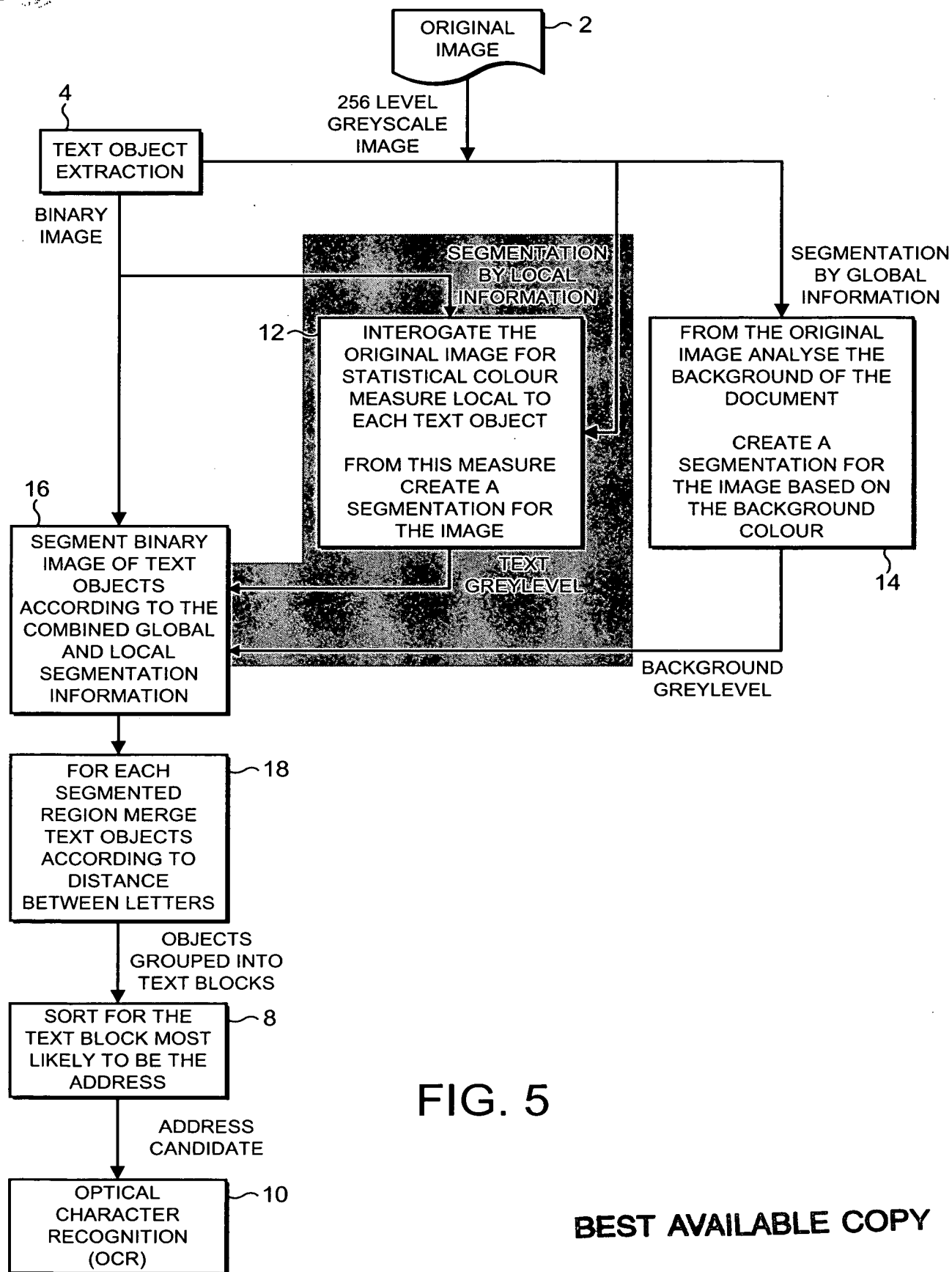


FIG. 5

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